

Focus On Fort Lauderdale



A community newsletter published by the City of Fort Lauderdale

December 1999/January 2000

Police Enhance Education Initiative

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department is setting an example for other law enforcement agencies nationwide looking to invest in innovative approaches that will keep kids in school and out of crime.

Allocating a total of \$345,000 toward the expansion of an online educational network, local schools and social service agency' gain access to a courseware designed computer resource known as NovaNET.

"This unique, dedicated, online system has exceeded our greatest expectations, not only as a learning tool with over 10,000 hours of self-paced, interactive curriculum for secondary and adult students in almost every subject, but as a multi-versatile resource for educators that is accessible 24-hours a day," said **Bob Cooke**, Grants Coordinator for the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

This year marks the second year of funding for the police-sponsored initiative. Since its inception, more than 5,000 students at 11 locations have used the system. During the first year of use, over 90% of the students using NovaNET increased by one to three grade levels.

-See "Police" on Page 5

New Trends & Tools Teaching Students Reading Writing Arithmetic



The two-story structure feature above is a rendering of the Fort Lauderdale Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Ground Breaking Makes Way For New Chamber

The recent steps taken to demolish a structure at 1021 Sistrunk Blvd. turned a new page in history for the Fort Lauderdale Negro Chamber of Commerce and took another step forward in the continued economic revival of the Sistrunk Boulevard business corridor.

The ceremonial demolition observed by area businesses, civic leaders and residents served as a groundbreaking celebration for a planned two-story, state-of-the-art facility expected to be completed by June 2000.

Located in the heart of the Sistrunk Business corridor and the Fort Lauderdale Main Street Project core area, the new two-story facility will serve as the economic revitalization headquarters for the business community. The facility will provide prime office space for four small businesses, a minimum of six new permanent jobs and meeting rooms for use by the general public.



A ceremonial demolition of a boarded up building at 1021 Sistrunk Blvd. signaled the groundbreaking for the new home of the Fort Lauderdale Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Related article ... Infrastructure improvements breathe new life into the City's quality of life. See page 5.

Parks Bond Projects Finish 1999 With A Bang

Developments continue at an all time high as the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks Bond projects continue to break ground on the next phase of projects.

The January construction start of the Beach Community Center, an 11,000 square foot building to be located near A1A at 3351 NE 33rd Ave., will break ground in more ways than one.

"We are extremely excited about this project because the planned state-of-the-art facility will serve an area of the City that has been underserved," said **Tom Tapp**, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department.



The start of the multipurpose facility also represents the first community center to be built since 1988. Amenities featured at the Beach Community Center will include a 4,000 square foot social hall complete with a warming kitchen for banquets, dances and meetings; a computer room with a seating capacity of 20; a 2,200 square foot fitness room with a cushioned wood flooring for aerobic classes; and a 2,000 square foot multipurpose room which can be subdivided into two rooms with a moveable wall.

-See "Parks" on Page 6

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

**Millennium Celebration
Your Guide To Activities
& Events in the City- Pg 4**

**Special Insert of
More Out Of Life - Your
official City guide to
Winter sports, activities
and events.**

**Have A Safe & Happy
Holiday Season!**

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Turn Over A New Leaf In Landscape Design For 2000

The City of Fort Lauderdale enjoys a sub-tropical climate throughout the year that promotes breathtaking landscaped sceneries.

In preserving and enhancing the landscaping in and around our parks, facilities and public right-of-ways, the City is also committed to ensuring that the delicate balance of the environment is not compromised by the use of chemicals. Here's why... during rainfall, excess insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other toxic chemicals can wash away from landscaped areas damaging sensitive wildlife habitats in local waterways and polluting canals, rivers and coastal waters.

While landscape maintenance without pesticides and fertilizers can present a challenge at times, the City has adopted alternative landscape practices that are less harmful to the environment and the user. This is an ongoing collaborative effort between the City staff and a group of environmentally savvy citizens.

In 1997, a group of citizens came forward to work with the City in an effort to reduce the use

of pesticides and fertilizers. Under the direction of the City Commission, this group has formed a committee known as TREC or the Toxic Reduction Education Committee. The City is currently working with the members of this group to continue adapting alternative ways to landscape design that will ultimately reduce the use of substances that are not environmentally friendly.

At this time, the City and TREC are taking this effort one step further by passing on this information to the citizens.

An article appearing at the bottom of this page will provide readers with some basic information to help individuals get started. Future issues of *Focus On Fort Lauderdale* will provide additional information to assist residents in designing and maintaining a landscape with a reduced need for chemicals.

By making small changes in the way we do things, Fort Lauderdale residents can help reduce the use of environmentally toxic pesticides and fertilizers.

The City of Fort Lauderdale is asking resi-

A Message From Mayor Jim Naugle



dents to join in our commitment toward a healthy environment. We further ask residents to add this commitment to the list of resolutions for Year 2000 and get involved in preserving the environment for future generations. All it takes is a few small steps.

In closing the City Commission and our families extend our best wishes to you and your families for a safe and happy holiday season.

Commission Agrees To Offer Wingate Site For Lease

The Fort Lauderdale City Commission has taken another important step toward the redevelopment of the Wingate Road landfill and incinerator site, at 1300 NW 31st Ave., by agreeing to offer the site for lease to private developers.

Proposals from parties interested in leasing the site for redevelopment will be submitted to a selection committee that includes Community Advisory Council (CAC) Co-Chairs **Kassandra Barnes** and **Robert Smith**, and city employees. A developer is expected to be selected early next year. Additionally, the City of Fort Lauderdale will be responsible for 30 years of monitoring after the site has been remediated.

"The redevelopment and lease of the site will benefit the community and increase property values," said **Greg Kisela**, Fort Lauderdale Assistant City Manager. "The City will remain a major participant in the cleanup and future monitoring of the site."

The City Commission voted in the spring to accept the recommendations of the CAC that the 60-acre site be redeveloped for recreational and/or commercial purposes.

Community representatives specifically requested that the end-use of the site directly benefit residents through employment, recreation and enhancement of physical appearance and property values. Suggestions included a recreational theme park, shopping plaza, crime research institute, and golf course with a clubhouse, tennis courts, boutiques and restaurants. No decision has been made on the specific end use.

The Environmental Protection Agency's multi-layered remedy for Wingate includes a capping system featuring three to four feet of soil and an impermeable, dense, plastic liner across the landfill. The multiple layers protect groundwater while preventing human contact with buried materials, similar to EPA remedies used successfully across the United States.

Environmental Impacts From Pesticides Prompt Citizens To Trek New Efforts In Landscape Design

The growth of gardening has become so popular that even individuals who claim to lack a green thumb will dawn a gardening hat and head to the local nursery.

The difficulty comes in the next few stages - which plants to use, and then getting rid of the insects lurking around in even the smallest and simplest of gardens prompting fear in the hearts of the property owners who are faced with perhaps a damaged plant.

Before you head to the store to purchase the best bug repellent consider this: Pesticides are purposely manufactured to be toxic. These pesticides are not exclusively toxic to insects, rather they can pose a threat to children, adults, pets and ultimately your environment by indirectly finding their way into water resources. Furthermore, to some individuals these pesticides do pose a serious threat prompting involvement from state legislation.

This is the message being conveyed by a local group of volunteering citizens who have formed the Toxic Reduction Education Committee (TREC) under the direction of the City Commission.

The committee, which meets twice a month, examines and recommends techniques and procedures to reduce the use of pesticides and fertilizers in the maintenance of landscape in and around parks, City facilities and residential neighborhoods.

The group also advocates the use of native

TIP OF THE DAY...

When choosing plants

for your home landscape always think first about the conditions into which you are installing the plant. Don't make choices based on aesthetics until you know the conditions on your lot. For example:

- * Don't choose a plant that cannot tolerate periods of pooling water near your gutter and down spouts.
- * Always try to think ahead and plan for your landscape taking into consideration the soil conditions, daily sun and water it may be exposed to.
- * Sitting plants, which require full sun, under young trees that will quickly grow large will likely shorten the vibrancy and successful life of the understory plant. Decreased sunlight from the growing tree canopy will probably inhibit its growth and health.
- * Always try to choose the right type of tree or shrub for the right location. Proper design is the wise choice because providing the right environment and reducing stress will likely reduce fertilizer and pesticide applications.

Recommended Readings:

Check out "Common Sense Pest Control" found on Broward County's website at www.co.broward.fl.us and under Pest Control.

Native Florida Plants by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell

Check out future issues of *Focus* for additional tips to designing and maintaining a healthier landscaping environment courtesy of the Toxic Reduction Education Committee.

plants which often require little or no chemical or fertilizer treatments. When native plants are used properly, they can also lower irrigation use.

"We are committed to re-educating the public on proper landscape design with a reduced need for chemicals," said **Bill Reeve**, TREC Chairman.

TREC meets twice a month on the 2nd floor

conference room of the Public Services Administration Building at 949 NW 38 St. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

For more information on TREC or for a schedule of upcoming meetings, contact **Carol Ingold**, Staff Liaison, at **761-5789** or Co-Chair **Karl Shallenberger** at **492-7843**.



New Era Promotes CALM Efforts

This holiday season grants us the unique opportunity to bid farewell to a century filled with extraordinary memories.

At this time, I would like to express my appreciation to the citizens, City Commission and City staff dedicated for enhancing the quality of life in the City.

The City of Fort Lauderdale recognizes that the backbone of any organization is the community that surrounds it and the workforce that leads it. City of Fort Lauderdale employees represent a unique network of individuals who strive to achieve the highest level of customer satisfaction. As an active supporter of fair employment and training practices, it is the City's policy to encourage and provide employee development and training. It is also our policy to develop and maintain a model workplace, emphasizing the active participation of staff and management working together.

Since 1993, the Cooperative Association between Labor and Management, also known as CALM, has revolutionized the way we conduct

business in the City of Fort Lauderdale with a steering committee and more than 30 subcommittees working to address City issues. The uniqueness of CALM lies in the fact that it is a philosophy committed to developing solutions to issues that may stand in the way of maintaining quality working conditions, productivity and customer satisfaction. CALM is dependent on the working relationship between employees and management. Since its inception, CALM has served as an example for other municipalities seeking effective strategies to improve government performance and relations.

Upon my arrival to the City of Fort Lauderdale last year, I was impressed by the accomplishments achieved by CALM and decided to take these efforts to an even higher level. To this end I have formed an Executive Committee for Labor-Management Cooperation for which I will serve as the management co-chair. The purpose of this committee is to foster labor-management cooperation initiatives and remove barriers to productivity and employee

A Message From City Manager Floyd T. Johnson



involvement. I strongly believe that many workplace issues are best resolved through a cooperative effort among all employees. One of the first initiatives of the Executive Committee will be to bring representatives of labor and management together to promote full utilization of our diverse workforce where all employees are treated with dignity and respect and are valued for their individual and team contributions.

In closing, I'd like to extend my holiday wishes for peace, health and prosperity to all citizens, families and their loved ones along with a safe and gratifying 2000.

Teen Initiative Recognized By National League Of Cities



Students participating in the ASIA program at Sunrise Middle School work on arts and crafts.

A component of the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department's Teen Initiative Program is getting special attention from the National League of Cities as an innovative effort that preserves, enriches and promotes high quality development.

Public officials representing more than 18,000 municipalities and towns from around the nation have recognized the After School Intramural and Arts component of the City's Teen Initiative Program, known as ASIA, with an Honorable Mention during the 1999 James C. Howland Awards for Urban Enrichment. The Teen Initiative, competing among 86 other entries from around the country, will receive one of four honorable mention awards from the National League of Cities at the annual conference in December. As a recipient, the City of Fort Lauderdale will receive a plaque and a check in the amount of \$500 which will be donated to a community non-profit organization of its choice.

"ASIA is designed to provide a wide variety of enrichment programs to teens who are culturally underserved to direct their energies in positive ways," said **Jacqui Hammond**, Recreation Coordinator. "The program's unique concept offers a wide range of quality motivational activities including sports, arts and crafts, music and educational training. In some cases, schools even show that participating students are doing better overall in their coursework."

"The program has been a tremendous success," said **Tom Tapp**, Director of Fort Lauderdale's Parks and Recreation Department. "The popularity of the activities has increased participation from less than 100 to more than 3,000. The initiative has filled an important gap in after school activities. In our research of the programs available, records revealed that the city had a need for strong motivational after school programs for 13-18 year olds. The James C. Howland Award is a confirmation that we are successful in our efforts to touch the lives of teens around Fort Lauderdale."

The After School Intramural and Arts Program is conducted at five facilities: Fort Lauderdale, Stranahan, Whiddon-Rogers and Dillard High Schools and Sunrise Middle School.

Community Policing Demonstration Center Kicks Off New Schedule For January

The following workshops will be offered at the Community Policing Demonstration Center, located at 1113 E. Sunrise Blvd.:

Landlord/Tenant Training, will be held Wed. Jan. 19, 2000, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Topics include keeping illegal activity out of your property, screening applicants, the Federal Fair Housing Act, Section 8 Housing and more. Certificates of Attendance will be issued upon completion of the course. The workshop is open to all interested. Sergeant Kiley and Sergeant Kridos of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department will instruct the class. Call **759-6428** for more information and to register.

The Community Policing Demonstration Center will also offer **Gang Awareness**. This workshop will discuss the risk of gangs, the indicators of gang membership, and gang activities. This class is open to those 18 years of age and older. Detective **Dave Nickerson** of the Youth Services will facilitate the workshop. For dates and times, to register or for additional information, call the Community Policing Demonstration Center at **759-6428**.



City Hall Offers Convenient Site to File For Homestead Exemption

On Jan. 20, property owners can file for homestead exemption between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on the 8th floor of City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Ave.

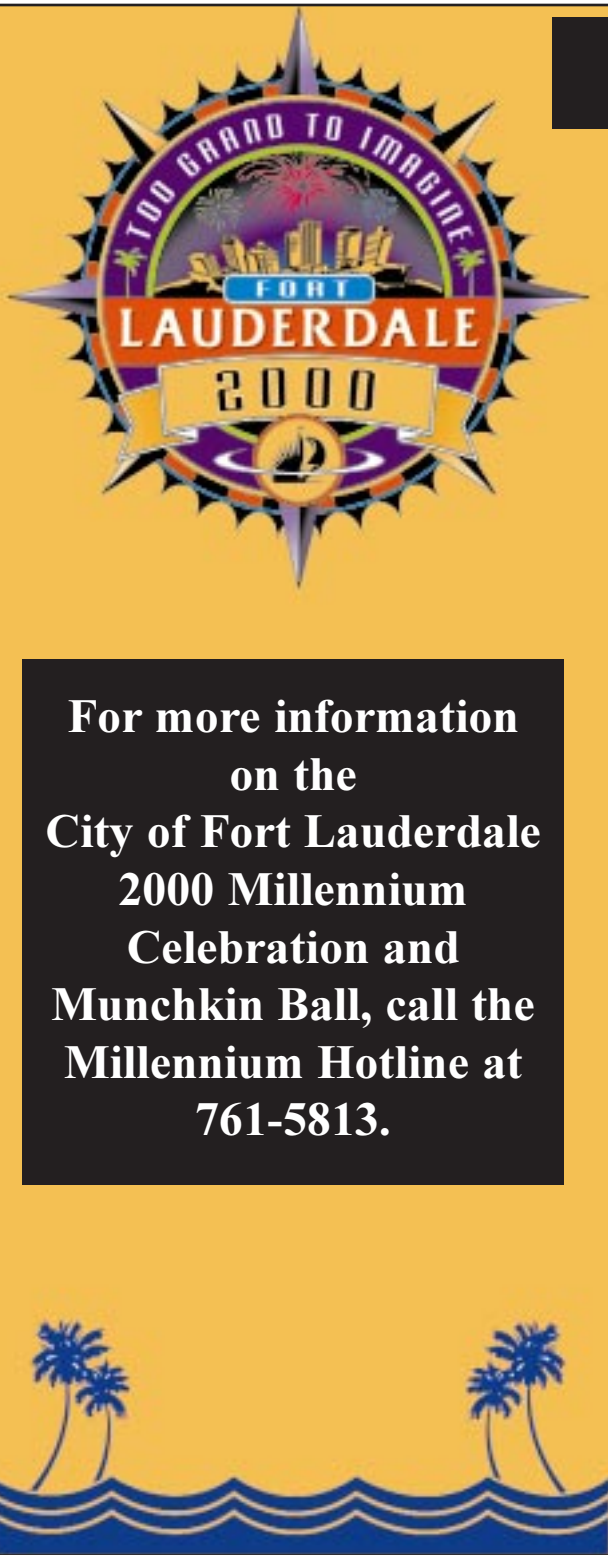
To receive the full \$25,000 exemption, property owners must bring the following information: social security number; recorded warranty deed or tax bill; Florida Driver's License; Florida Vehicle Registration; Florida Voter's Registration or declaration of domicile. Non-U.S. Citizens must have a permanent VISA, Green or Pink Card and recorded declaration of domicile. For additional information, please call the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office at **357-6830**.

Setting the record straight... An error was published in an article that appeared in the last issue of *Focus On Fort Lauderdale*. Below is the revised article with correct information. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused residents.

Resident Discount Card Offers Reduced Parking

The City's Parking Services Division is offering residents parking at the Las Olas Intracoastal Lot for a reduced rate.

The Resident Discount Card offers residents a 50 percent discount on parking at the lot, located at S. Birch Road and Las Olas Circle. At a cost of \$3 plus tax, the new Discount Card is valid for a one-year trial period. Residents must bring proof of City residency in the forms of a utility bill, a driver's license and the current automobile registration. For more information on the Resident Discount Card, contact the Parking Services Division at **468-1600**. Parking Services is located at 290 NE 3rd Ave. Hours of operations are Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Celebrate Year 2000 In Grand Style

It's a celebration fit for the entire family that's loaded with plenty to do. While most celebrations will end just after the clock strikes midnight, visitors and citizens in the City of Fort Lauderdale will toast the year 2000 with a weekend of activities spanning across the downtown area.

Fort Lauderdale Celebration, Inc. has created and organized the **City of Fort Lauderdale 2000 Millennium Celebration and Munchkin Ball**, sponsored by Sci-Fi Megaplex and the Sun-Sentinel, to take place on New Year's Eve. Here's a look at what's on tap for Friday, December 31, 1999:

* Head to the **Family Amusement Center** on Las Olas Boulevard in front of the Sun-Sentinel building for rides, activities and games starting at 7 p.m.

* Follow the yellow brick road to Esplanade Park on SW Second Street for a **Munchkin Ball** that's fit for a prince or princess starting at 7 p.m. Youth ages 1 to 14 can experience the **Nickelodeon's Game Lab** sponsored by Comcast Communications in the gazebo with shows at 7:15 p.m. and at 8:30 p.m. Other activities will include costumed characters, clown face painting, family entertainment and a special munchkin fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. donated by Zambelli Internationale. The Munchkin Ball is an alcohol-free zone, food and beverages will be available for purchase.

* The **Second Annual New River Boat Parade** will kick off at 7:30 p.m. presented by the Downtowner Saloon, located behind the courthouse on the New River. View a mile-long parade of boats decked with lights and music along the New River from the north or south banks of Riverwalk. A live entertainment stage located outside the Downtowner Saloon will feature music until 2 a.m. by Iko Iko, J Street Jumpers and the Regulators.

* The City of Fort Lauderdale will culminate the Tree2000 program with the planting of the 2000th tree during the **Millennium Tree Planting**. A special ceremonial planting of a Red Kapok tree will take place at 8 p.m. by the cul de sac in front of the Downtowner Saloon. For more information, contact **Gene Dempsey**, City of Fort Lauderdale Forrester at **761-5785**.

* **DDA Plaza/Bubier Park** will feature live entertainment starting at 7 p.m. Musical performances include the great swing band J Street Jumpers, Zydeco Sweetheart, Rosie Ledet and local R&B blues great Iko Iko. Arts & crafts, food and beverage concessions will be available.

* At the stroke of midnight, the sky will light up with **fireworks** by Zambelli Internationale set off from the Second Street City garage.

Events are free to the public and parking is available in all county and City garages.

Don't Miss The First Sunrise... Catch the first light of day of 2000 during **Sunrise At Sunrise** presented by the Beach Council of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. Pick your spot along Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard from Las Olas Boulevard to Sunrise Boulevard and don't miss this historical event between 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

Don't Miss The First Brunch Of 2000... Enjoy brunch and more live music at the **SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 2, 2000. Check out the sounds of Sha-Shaty, Eric Allison Dixieland Band, Karen Shame, Stacey Berkley and Ciano Jazz from five stages along Riverwalk. Gourmet brunch is available for purchase from the area's finest restaurants. For more information, call the information hotline at **761-5985**.

Laying the Groundwork For A Secure Economic Future

Development has been at an all time high for the City of Fort Lauderdale, not just in the way of new construction, but with infrastructure improvements laying the groundwork for enhanced quality of life in a growing community.

Since 1986, economic growth and stability has become increasingly associated with investments in infrastructure. With the passage of a \$47 million bond, Fort Lauderdale Beach was completely renovated, including construction of the seawall, reconfigured parking, a rerouted traffic system and the construction of Riverwalk along the New River in Downtown. With the passage of the 1996 Parks Bond, \$35 million in parks projects are enhancing the number of facilities providing citizens with recreational venues, enhancing the green areas of the City as well as increasing the overall tree canopy.

Investments in public amenities along with investments in road, sewer and public facilities improvements play a vital role in providing a safe and sufficient water supply, building an effective stormwater system and providing

effective facilities that meet the needs of a growing community. Here are just a few highlights of ongoing infrastructure projects that have taken place:

Annual Asphaltic Concrete Pavement Resurfacing

During the past six months several streets have been resurfaced in the Coral Ridge Neighborhood including Middle River Drive and N.E. 26 Street. The resurfacing of Bayview Drive between Commercial and Oakland Park Boulevards, which included restriping and the addition of shoulders on both sides of the street, served as a traffic calming method as well. Also, a number of streets in Victoria Park were resurfaced enhancing the overall aesthetics of the community.

Annual Concrete & Paving Stones Repair

In the past three months this program has replaced approximately 6,000 square feet of concrete sidewalk. The areas include N.E. 53rd Street in the 2000 to 2100 block, S.E. 11th Avenue in Victoria Park.

Sewer Replacement

The City has approximately 340 miles of sewer pipe comprised of a clay component. Because of its aging factor, ground water seeps into the pipes causing infiltration and inflow into the City's Water Treatment Plant. Last year, the City invested in a program to reduce this effect. Known as Infiltration/Inflow Reduction, this program utilizes such repair techniques as grouting

cracks and/or lining pipes with a strong liner which ultimately serves as a new pipe.

Watermain Replacement

In 1993, the City of Fort Lauderdale Public Services Department embarked on a capital improvement project to replace 170 miles of deteriorating watermain pipes. This year, watermains were replaced in the southwest area of Riverland, the Franklin Park area, the Wingate area, the Dillard area and Melrose Park neighborhood. But that is just one component of the watermain replacement that has occurred. Through the utilization of a new pipe rehabilitation technology, applicable sectors of the City will benefit from a new technology that cleans out the cast iron pipes and coats the inside of the pipe with an epoxy lining eliminating unnecessary excavation and replacement.

Stay tuned for the next issue of Focus On Fort Lauderdale to find out about other ongoing infrastructure improvements.





A bronze statue of a soldier, donated by the Gold Star Mothers sits atop a marble base donated by the Fort Lauderdale JayCees. The marble walls accent the lobby floor featuring an intricate design naming numerous WWII battles.

War Memorial Auditorium has seen it all - from musical repertoires and graduations to basketball tournaments and wrestling matches.

With a seating capacity of 2,100, the 30,000-square-foot theatre has set the stage for such names as Duke Ellington, the Harlem Globetrotters and Buddy Holly. Located in the heart of the City at 800 N.E. 8th Street in Holiday Park, this impressive facility has also served as an outlet for the amateur headliners of Fort Lauderdale during a half a century of community fundraisers and talent shows. As a facility able to accommodate thousands, it continues to host more than 180 events a year from antique shows and specialty automobile auctions to computer and orchid shows. In five years the facility has

WHERE WERE YOU JANUARY 14, 1950?

Looking for citizens who took part in making War Memorial Auditorium possible. Be a part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of this living memorial to the veterans of World War II.

generated over \$465,000 in net revenue for the City.

The story of how this \$400,000 facility came into existence is a lesson in community spirit. Citizens wanted to establish a facility that would serve as a living monument to WWII veterans as well as an entertainment and civic venue. A War Memorial Association was formed of citizens, civic leaders, recently discharged veterans and their families to lead a fundraising effort that

raised \$104,000. The City donated the site at Holiday Park and picked up the rest of the tab. War Memorial Auditorium drew its curtains for the first time in grand style on January 14, 1950. A dedication ceremony honoring veterans and military officials were entertained with musical performances by the Fort Lauderdale High School Band and the Fort Lauderdale Male Chorus.

On January 14, 2000, the City of Fort Lauderdale will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this historical icon. A 50-year-old time capsule will be unveiled. The City of Fort Lauderdale invites community members, who were involved in War Memorial's beginnings to come forth and take part in the planning. For more information, contact **Robert Stried**, Manager, at **761-5380**.

Police Department Invests In Education

-Continued from page 1

This year's increased funding will provide access to more than 10,000 students with 285 new port connections and access at five additional sites.

NovaNET has been developed to perform specific functions including:

- * To motivate the student's interest in learning and enhance their educational capabilities;
- * To provide students with self-paced, interactive coursework that adapts to individual student needs with the preparation work of the instructor;
- * To provide students with basic life skills and the tools to develop into positive productive citizens;
- * To serve instructors with a supplemental tool in their curriculum. (System can be customized to meet the individual course needs of teachers and students.)

"This is the ultimate academic tool for students and teachers," said **Marjorie Callahan**,

NovaNET Lab Instructor at Dillard High School. "Since February of this year, more than 230 students have used the system and you can physically see how they have increased their academic skills. What has impressed me the most about the system is that it caters to students of all levels."

"It's an excellent program that has allowed me to improve my math grades from a C to B in Geometry," said **Regina Wright**, a junior at Dillard High School who has been working with NovaNET since it was made available. "I think what is most important is that it has taught me not to judge a book by its cover because its not just another computer program. It motivates you to learn through lessons and games."

Students using NovaNET can access it from any one of the resource centers that are online in Fort Lauderdale at the following locations: Dillard High School; Stranahan High School; William Dandy middle school; New River Middle School;



Dillard High School's NovaNET lab.

Whiddon/Rogers Alternative School; 4th Avenue Church of God; Nan Knox Boys and Girls Club; Fort Lauderdale High School; Mount Olive Baptist Church Youth Empowerment Program and the City's Youth Motivation Program; Sunrise Middle School; Adult Education Program at the Weed & Seed Safe Haven in the Mizell Center; Mount Bethel Neighborhood Outreach; Harris Chapel Life Enrichment Center; and the YMCA - Y-Chance.

City Announces Holiday Sanitation Services, Recycling Schedule

For Christmas Day

All City sanitation services will be suspended in observance of the Christmas holiday. Garbage, recycling and yard waste will not be picked up on Saturday, Dec. 25th. Services will resume on the next regularly scheduled pickup day.

The City's Trash Transfer Station, 2101 N.W. 6th Street, will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 25, 1999 and will reopen on Sunday, Dec. 26, 1999.

Where & When To Recycle Christmas Trees

There will be no separate collection of Christmas trees this year. Therefore, the City of Fort Lauderdale is asking residents to please recycle Christmas trees by either leaving them out on the designated bulk trash pick up day or bringing trees to one of five drop off locations between Dec. 27 and Jan. 17:

Joseph C. Carter Park,
1450 W. Sunrise Blvd. (main parking lot off NW 15th Avenue.)
Trash Transfer Station,
1901 NW 6th St.

Croissant Park,
SW 17 Street & SW 2nd Ave (next to railroad tracks, east of the ball field)

Note: Please remove all ornaments and stands from your tree.

Bayview Park,
NE 44th Street & Bayview Drive (east end of parking area, north side of NE 44th Street)

Holiday Park,
East Sunrise Blvd. and U.S.-1 (south of War Memorial Auditorium, near tennis courts)

For New Year's Day

Residential garbage collection, recycling and yard waste will be picked up as usual on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2000.

The City's Trash Transfer Station, located at 2101 N.W. 6th Street, will be closed on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2000 in observance of New Year's Day. The Trash Transfer Station will resume operations on Sunday, Jan. 2, 2000 for the public. For more information, please call **771-0880**

Parks Bond Construction Continues

- Continued From Page 1

The Community Center will also sport a lobby and game room, offices for meetings and restrooms. A groundbreaking ceremony is planned for December 16.

Holiday Park Phase II

Holiday Park is in a state of transformation as construction on Phase II continues to speed up for a February completion just in time for Holiday Park Little League season 2000.

Massive construction is currently underway on the northeast section of the park that will feature a state-of-the-art baseball complex to include three little league fields, one big league field, one senior league field, two T-ball fields, a parking area and a concession stand. At this time, the concession stand has been nearly completed and can be seen from Sunrise Boulevard. Construction on two roller hockey rinks is slated to begin in the spring.

In another portion of Phase II, a \$250,000 playground is in the planning stage. The City is working on developing various community partnerships to help fund the playground.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the community to step up to the plate and help support this much needed initiative," said **Tapp**.

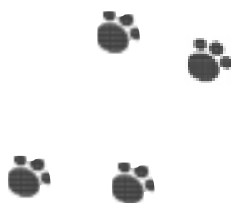
Palm Aire Village Park

The City of Fort Lauderdale has closed on a four-acre parcel for the planned Palm Aire Village Park. The lot for the \$1.5 million park is located

City To Unveil Bark Park, "The Park Dogs Ask For By Name"

Additional park developments, a fully fenced facility just for pets and their owners is under construction with an expected completion date of spring 2000.

Within the natural setting of Snyder Park, pets will be provided with a two-acre section to call their own, complete with tree-lined trails, drinking fountains at dog and person levels, agility equipment, leash stations, two hose stations, a scooper supply depot and disposal bins. Pet owners will have plenty of picnic tables and benches at their disposal. The experience will provide pets and their owners with the perfect place to play off-leash and relax.



Bark Park will be more than just the ultimate playground for your pooch and pals. A variety of programs and special curriculum are planned including obedience and agility classes and Canine Good Citizens programs. The programs will be offered to the public for a nominal fee.

Bark Park will be operated by the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department and receive support from the not-for-profit corporation "The Friends of Bark Park." For information on "Friends" membership, sponsorships and volunteer opportunities, contact Snyder Park at **468-1585**.



adjacent to The Calvary Chapel along Cypress Creek Road at N.W. 21st Avenue.

Lincoln Park

New lighting and basketball courts have been installed. New playground equipment is in the works to complete this park improvement project located at Sistrunk Boulevard at N.W. 19th Avenue.

Bass Park

Construction underway at Bass Park will double the size of the DeGraffenreidt Center.

A 2,000 square foot addition will provide a second activity room with a new kitchen that will be accessible from the existing activity room, along with new storage space and renovated bathrooms.

Bass Park is located at 2750 N.W. 19th St.

Community Appearance Awards To Recognize Outstanding Beautification Efforts For Year 2000

Applications to submit entries for the Year 2000 Community Appearance Awards will be available beginning in January.

The Community Appearance Awards Program is presented each year by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission and the Community Appearance Board to encourage aes-

thetic awareness and recognize those who are participating in our community to enhance its visual image and economic vitality.

To submit, applicants must meet several eligibility requirements including:

- * A project must be located in the corporate limits of Fort Lauderdale;
- * Submission of a project must be authorized by the owner of the property;
- * A Civic Association may enter those projects that positively affect the area of the Association;
- * For new construction, a Certificate of Occupancy must have been issued.

Please refer to the application for further

requirements. To receive an application, contact the City of Fort Lauderdale Public Information Office after January 10, 2000 at **468-1513**. Applications must be received by no later than March 3, 2000. Award winners will be announced during the Community Appearance Awards Ceremony held each year in late spring.

During last year's event, more than 80 nominations were recognized for a variety of projects including new constructions, renovations, rehabilitations and restorations. A total of 18 of those properties received outstanding awards. Sponsorship of the program comes from the community in the form of corporate and private donations.

Neighborhood Capital Improvement Initiative Receives National Award

One of the City's most popular neighborhood beautification initiatives has achieved national accolades for its successful efforts in improving quality of life for citizens.

American City & County magazine has recognized the Neighborhood Capital Improvement

"NCIP has sparked economic growth,

community cohesiveness and civic pride."
City Manager
Floyd T. Johnson

Program with one of nine Crown Community Awards. Fort Lauderdale was one of 90 projects evaluated.

Since its inception in 1993, more than 85 capital improvement projects have been completed in neighborhoods throughout the City. Originally developed as a four-year initiative, the NCIP has been extended for an additional five-year term with a budget of \$250,000 per year. The program seeks to enhance neighborhoods by providing match grants for the construc-

tion of capital improvements including entrance-way features, neighborhood signs, streetscapes, playground equipment, brick paver crosswalks and park benches. The program also offers free specialized services toward the completion of the projects which include civil and traffic engineering, surveys, inspections, structural and landscape architectural support.

"The Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program has made great strides in strengthening our partnership with citizens toward enhancing the City's quality of life," said City Manager **Floyd T. Johnson**. "NCIP has sparked economic growth, community cohesiveness and civic pride."

Recently, the City Commission approved an increase in the percentage of funds that are allocated to neighborhoods on a per project basis.

The Crown Community Awards, sponsored each year by *American City & County* magazine, recognizes 10 communities that exemplify the best local government has to offer its citizens. Projects evaluated involve city or county projects

completed during the award year and can encompass any aspect of local government, including but not limited to: water supply; streets and highways; parks and recreation; wastewater collection and treatment; public finance; public transportation; stormwater and flood control; technology; solid waste collection and treatment; public safety and more.

"The NCIP program has made an impact on the lives of our community residents by addressing some of the quality of life initiatives residents have relevant to their own neighborhood areas," said **Marisol Lotito**, NCIP Program Manager. "The program is a perfect example of government and citizens working together to build a better community."



News To Use

Each year, fires associated with the holiday season injure thousands of individuals and cause over \$25 million in damages according to the United States Fire Administration (USFA).

To ensure a fire-safe holiday season, the City of Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department recommends these safety tips courtesy of the USFA.

Preventing Holiday Tree Fires

- Do not put your live tree up too early, or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- To prevent your tree from drying prematurely, check the water supply in the tree stand and replenish as needed.
- Do not place your tree close to a heat source, such as a fireplace, heat vent, candles, lighters, matches or lit cigarettes. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.

Your Fire-Safe Checklist

Get Your Free Batteries

The Fire-Rescue Department is offering free, 9-volt batteries as part of a fire safety partnership.

The department has received 1,000 free batteries from the Energizer Battery Company to encourage Fort Lauderdale residents to change the batteries in smoke



alarms. Damage to life and property from fire can be greatly reduced by following these two easy steps: change smoke alarm batteries when the clocks change back one hour in the Fall and ahead one hour in Spring, and perform a monthly test to ensure a working smoke alarm. To receive your free batteries, please call (954) 759-6360.



- Never set tree branches or needles in a fireplace or woodburning stove. When the tree becomes

dry, discard it promptly at one of the City's recycling drop-off centers listed at left.

Check Your Hot Spots

● Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up.

- Use only nonflammable decorations.

- Do not overload electrical outlets.

- Never leave holiday lights unattended.

Keep Smoke Alarms Working

● Working smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas.

- Remember to test all smoke alarms at the beginning of each month, and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times. See related story to "Get Your Free Batteries."

Commission Approves Amendment To Address Fencing Abilities For Owners Of Empty Lots

Did you know that if you are a property owner of a vacant parcel of land, you may be eligible to install a fence around your property?

Ordinance C-99-18 was adopted last spring amended to the Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) to permit the installation of non-opaque fencing on vacant properties. In the past, City regulations prohibited vacant parcels from being surrounded by fences to discourage crime and illegal activities. Because of continuing difficulties with illegal dumping on a vacant properties this prohibition was repealed.

The fence must include a 10-foot opening that may be gated yet allows access to the property for emergency purposes. Some examples of non-opaque styles include picket and chain link fences.

All owners seeking any typing of fencing are required by city code to file for a permit. For more information, contact the Construction Services Division of the City of Fort Lauderdale One-Stop Shop at 761-5191.



Owners of vacant parcels now have the option of installing a non-opaque fence on the perimeter of the parcel. A non-opaque fence is one that is not solid, or one that allows visual access from the street. Some examples of non-opaque fences include picket and chain link fences as shown in the photographs on the left. Owners are required to file for a permit. For more information, contact the Construction Services Division at 761-5191.

Crime Prevention Tips For This Holiday Season

The holiday season is a special time of the year. It is also a time to be especially alert to the possibilities of crime. As days get busier, citizens need to take extra precautions to avoid becoming victims of crime. Statistics nationwide reveal that people are especially vulnerable to burglary, theft, and other crimes during this hectic time of year.

News To Use

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department would like to offer the following safety tips. Taking these extra safety precautions could make your holidays safer and happier.

- Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you.
- Lock your car and close the windows, even if you are only gone for a few minutes.
- Lock your packages out-of-sight in the trunk.
- If waiting for a ride from a friend or public transportation, do so in busy, well-lit places.
- Teach children to go to the store clerk and ask

for help if you become separated. They should never go to the parking lot or the car alone.

- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. If credit card receipts have carbons, ask for these.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. They become targets in crowded shopping areas, at bus stops, and on public transportation.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- At home, be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes. Leave lights and a radio or television on so the house looks occupied. Do not put large displays of holiday gifts in view of your windows or doors.
- If you go away for the holidays, try to keep your home appearing "lived in": Get an automatic timer for your lights. Have a neighbor watch your home and pick-up your newspapers and mail.
- Immediately mark your new gifts with your

driver's license number, and note all serial numbers, keeping records in a safe place.

- And lastly, when hosting a party, find alternative transportation for intoxicated guests; and when going out to celebrate, please remember: Don't Drink and Drive.

Share these tips with others in your family and neighborhood. Also, why not get your neighborhood together and go caroling. Do not forget the elderly and other people who might be especially lonely during the holidays. Soon, you may wish to form a neighborhood watch group. People helping people, that's what it is all about!



Thanks To Our Sponsors

In appreciation, we ask that you visit our sponsors

GOOD HEALTH NEWS

HEALING ARTS

Art of Yoga (ongoing)
Mondays, 8:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m.
\$10/session or \$85/series of 10
Beginners always welcome.

Art of Tai Chi (ongoing)
Mondays, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.
\$10/session or \$85/series of 10
Beginners always welcome.

The Art of Meditation
Mondays, 1/17 & 1/24, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, 2/2 & 2/9, 6:30 p.m.
\$50/ 2 session seminar.

Prepare for Surgery: Heal Faster
Thursdays, 12/7, 1/13, 2/10 or 3/9
2:30 p.m., \$35, includes book & tape
Bring a support person for free!

Aromatherapy
Aroma alternatives for stress relief.
Wednesday, 12/8, 7:00 p.m.
\$25/session

Individual consultations for Healing,
Hypnotherapy, Healing Touch
and Massage sessions available.

Center For The Healing Arts Practitioners Available For Private Appointment

Consultations for Healing with Brenda

Astor, RN, Director.....	\$90.00
Subsequent sessions.....	\$60.00
Massage Therapy with Licensed Massage Therapist.....	\$50.00
Hypnotherapy with Certified Hypnotherapist.....	\$50.00
Healing Touch with Certified Healing Touch Practitioner.....	\$75.00
Subsequent sessions.....	\$60.00

The Power of Chi Kung
Tuesday, 1/4, 4:00 p.m. (free intro)
Tuesdays, 1/20-2/24, 7:00 p.m.
\$9/session or \$75/series of 10

The TAO of Eating (6 part series)
Healing your relationship with food to
find your natural weight.
Thursday, 1/6, 7:00 p.m. (free intro)
Thursdays, 1/20-2/24, 7:00 p.m.
\$150/6 part seminar (pre-payment
required)

**Sacred Interiors: Clear Your Space, Clear
Your Mind** (2 part seminar)
Feng Shui joins NLP
Tuesday, 1/8 & 1/25, 7:00 p.m.
\$35/session or \$65/series

From Age-ing to Sage-ing (Part 1)
A profound new vision of growing older.
Saturday, 1/22, 9:00 a.m.
\$75 (pre-payment required)

Pre-registration & pre-payment
required to hold your space.
Call (954) 776-8748 to register
and make appointments.

Healing Alcove - A soothing space
designed to decrease stress and
increase relaxation.....\$5.00-1/2 hr.
Gift Certificates Available

- Services are offered by appointment only.
- Those taking classes must pre-register & pre-pay to hold their space.
- Cancellation policy: 24 hour notice required.
- Payment is on a fee-for-service basis, no third party billing is done.
- Prices are subject to change without notice.
- Massage Establishment License MM-000734.

WELLNESS AND SAFETY

CPR
Saturday, 1/15 or 2/12
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
\$30, (954) 776-8810
American Heart Association

First Aid
Saturday, 1/15 or 2/12
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
\$25, (954) 776-8810
American Heart Association

Quit Smoking Session (Hypnosis)
Saturday, 1/8 or 2/19
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
\$50, 1-800-848-2822

Freedom from Smoking
(6 week course)
Mondays, 1/10-2/14
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
\$75, (954) 776-8810
Ask about our Millennium Package
American Lung Association

Lose Weight (Hypnosis)
Saturday, 1/8 or 2/19
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
\$50, 1-800-848-2822

Community Fitness Programs
Monthly and annual memberships
beginning at \$35/month. Flexible hours
to fit your schedule. Personal training
and family discounts available.
(954) 776-8868

Supervised Adult Fitness
Monitored fitness & strength training for
adults at risk of heart and lung disease.
Monthly & annual memberships available
starting at \$48/month. (954) 776-8868

Executive Health
Occupational & executive health
screenings and general annual exams.
(954) 776-8810

DIABETES EDUCATION

**"A-Z" Comprehensive 3-Day
Diabetes Class**
Call for dates and times.
\$300/3-day series
(954) 229-9092

Diabetes Support Group
Monday, 1/18, FREE
1-800-528-4888

LECTURES

**Knee Pain & Over the Counter Arthritis
Supplements**
Tuesday, 12/7, 4:00 p.m., FREE
Kevin Kessler, M.D. and Seth Feldman,
D.O.

ABC's of Thyroid Lumps & Bumps
Tuesday, 12/14, 4:00 p.m., FREE
R. Mack Harrell, M.D.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Lymphedema
Fourth Saturday of the month
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Call for (954) 568-9678 for
reservations.



For information, reservations or FREE physician referral
call our Health Line 1-800-528-4888

It's your life. Protect it!
www.nbhd.org

Imperial Point Medical Center 6401 North Federal Highway, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33308
Medical Establishment License # MM 000734



Focus On Fort Lauderdale is published bimonthly to provide residents and businesses with information about City of Fort Lauderdale programs, services and issues. Questions and comments about the publication may be directed to: **Lourdes Rodriguez,**

City of Fort Lauderdale Public Information Office

101 N.E. 3rd Ave., Suite 300;

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

E-mail - LourdesR@ci.ftlaud.fl.us Phone: 954-468-1501

For information on sponsorship opportunities, contact **Diane Marshall** by phone at **847-3719** or email at **DianeM@ci.ftlaud.fl.us**



City Commission...

Mayor Jim Naugle

Vice Mayor Carlton B. Moore District III

Commissioner Gloria F. Katz District I

Commissioner Tim Smith District II

Commissioner Jack Latona District IV

City Manager

Floyd T. Johnson

Around Town...

Senior Games Scheduled For Jan. 21-Feb. 4, 2000

The South Florida SENIOR GAMES, known as the "Olympiad for people 50 years of age and over," consists of more than 70 athletic and nonathletic competitions ranging from golf and bowling, to bridge and bake-offs. Events are held at several locations in Broward County.

For additional information on participating or becoming a sponsor call **Judy Thom** with the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department at **761-5383** or **Dori Horowitz** of the Special Populations Section of Broward County Parks and Recreation at **357-8170**.

Information is also available on the City's website by logging on to **www.ci.ftlaud.fl.us**.

International Swimming Hall Of Fame Events

Dec. 17- Jan. 11: The 64th Annual College Forum will draw more than 1,500 student athletes representing over 50 collegiate swimming and diving teams to Fort Lauderdale for a month of exciting tournaments. In addition to the Hall of Fame facilities, teams will utilize pools at Fort Lauderdale, Northeast and Stranahan High Schools, and Sunland Pool.

Free admission for spectators who must watch from the grandstands. The International Swimming Hall of Fame Aquatic Complex is located at 500 Seabreeze Blvd. For more information, call **468-1580** or visit the City's website at **www.ci.ftlaud.fl.us**.

28th Annual BellSouth Winterfest Boat Parade

This year's parade will be held on December 11, 1999 with more stars, music and fun than ever! The Parade will follow its traditional route from Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale to Lake Santa Barbara in Pompano.

For more information call **767-0686** or log on to **www.winterfest-parade.com**

Fort Lauderdale Stadium Events

Feb. 5th Fit America Corporate Grand Prix

Feb. 4th - 6th Umbro Allstar Select Soccer Event

Feb. 12th Joe DiMaggio Legend's Baseball game

Fort Lauderdale Stadium is located at 5301 NW 12th Ave. For additional information on tickets or other events, call Debbie Gasperic at **938-4980**.

Historical Society Opens New Museum Doors

The Old Fort Lauderdale Museum of History, located at the historic New River Inn 231 S.W. Second Ave, features chronological exhibits about the history of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County, the Seminole Indians and the history of movie making in our county. Hours are Tuesday through Friday noon to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 6 - 16, free for members and children under 6. For more information, call **463-4431**.